

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Duane Ankney, on January 12, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317
Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Duane Ankney, Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Keith Regier (R)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Mary McNally (D), Sen. Pat Connell, Vice Chair (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 32, 1/9/2017; SJ 2, 1/9/2017

00:00:57 Chair Ankney

HEARING ON SB 32

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:32 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 32, Repeal community renewable energy project requirements.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:50 Travis Kavulla, Public Service Commission (PSC)

[EXHIBIT\(ens09a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens09a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens09a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(ens09a04\)](#)

00:03:56 Sen. Blasdel entered the hearing.

00:06:25 Sen. Wolken entered the hearing.

00:16:20 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)

00:29:21 Greg Dorrington, Montana Dakota Utilities

Opponents' Testimony:

00:31:43 Brian Fadie, Clean Energy program director, Montana Environmental Information Center

00:36:19 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Council

00:38:14 Jeff Fox, policy manager, Renewable Northwest (RN)

00:43:08 Andrew Valainis, executive director, Montana Renewable Energy Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:44:31 Sen. Wolken

00:47:54 Mr. Alke, NWE

00:49:02 Sen. Malek

00:52:11 Mr. Kavulla, PSC

00:56:43 Sen. Tempel

00:57:00 Mr. Kavulla

00:58:18 Sen. Barrett

01:02:46 Mr. Fox, RN

Closing by Sponsor:

01:03:10 Sen. Regier

01:03:55 Chair Ankney

HEARING ON SJ 2

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:04:21 With written permission from Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, (Senate Rule 30-70), Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SJ 2, Study of renewable energy credits in Montana.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:22 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy (NWE)
01:09:23 Laura Anderson, Department of Environmental Quality
01:11:11 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association

Opponents' Testimony:

01:11:52 Jeff Fox, Renewable Northwest

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

01:13:41 Sen. Regier
01:13:45 Chair Ankney

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:50 PM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([ens09aad.pdf](#))